

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (original) A Cu-Ni-Mn-Al alloy containing nickel in the range $\geq 21\%$ to $\leq 26\%$ by weight, aluminium in the range $\geq 2.1\%$ to $\leq 3.2\%$ by weight and which possesses a Ni:Al ratio of between 8 and 10 (in terms of wt%).
2. (original) The alloy of claim 1 further including iron, chromium and niobium.
3. (original) The alloy of claim 2 further including one or more of titanium, vanadium, silicon, tantalum or tungsten.
4. (original) A Cu-Ni-Mn-Al alloy having Ni:Al ratio of between 8 and 10 (in terms of wt%) and the composition (% by weight):

Nickel	21.0 – 26.0
Aluminium	2.1 – 3.2
Manganese	2.8 – 4.1
Iron	0.4 – 1.5
Chromium	0.3 – 1.5
Niobium	0.7 – 1.2
Titanium	0.0 – 0.5
Tungsten	0.0 – 0.5
Tantalum	0.0 – 0.5
Silicon	0.0 – 0.5
Vanadium	0.0 – 0.5
Copper	Remainder

5. (original) The alloy according to claim 4 wherein the nickel, aluminium, and manganese are present in the following amounts (% by weight):

Nickel	21.5 – 24.0
Aluminium	2.2 – 2.5
Manganese	3.0 – 4.1
Iron	0.4 – 1.1
Chromium	0.3 – 1.4
Niobium	0.7 – 1.2

6. (original) The alloy according to claim 5 wherein the nickel, aluminium, and manganese are present in the following amounts (% by weight):

Nickel	21.9 – 22.1
Aluminium	2.4 – 2.5
Manganese	3.0 – 3.1

7. (currently amended) The alloy according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1 having the following properties after thermo-mechanical processing in the temperature range 800°C to 1000°C and heat treatment in the temperature range 350°C to 600°C:

0.2% Proof Stress	$\geq 850 \text{ N/mm}^2$
Tensile Strength	$\geq 1000 \text{ N/mm}^2$
Elongation ($5.65\sqrt{S_0}$)	$\geq 8\%$
Hardness	$\geq 280 \text{ BHN}$

8. (original) The alloy according to claim 7 wherein the 0.2% proof stress is $\geq 900 \text{ N/mm}^2$.

9. (currently amended) The alloy according to claim 7 ~~or claim 8~~ wherein the hardness is $\geq 300 \text{ BHN}$.

10. (amended) The alloy according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein the Ni:Al ratio is ≥ 9 .

11. canceled

12. canceled

13. (new) The alloy according to claim 4 having the following properties after thermo-mechanical processing in the temperature range 800°C to 1000°C and heat treatment in the temperature range 350°C to 600°C:

0.2% Proof Stress	$\geq 850 \text{ N/mm}^2$
Tensile Strength	$\geq 1000 \text{ N/mm}^2$
Elongation ($5.65\sqrt{S_0}$)	$\geq 8\%$
Hardness	$\geq 280 \text{ BHN}$

14. (new) The alloy according to claim 13 wherein the 0.2% proof stress is $\geq 900 \text{ N/mm}^2$

15. (new) The alloy according to claim 13 wherein the hardness is $\geq 300 \text{ BHN}$.

16. (new) The alloy according to claim 4 wherein the Ni:Al ratio is ≥ 9 .